

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-05 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-15

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R 111942Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 149792

NESCO

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: O ON, TGEN, UNESCO

SUBJECT:INTERNATIONAL HYDROLOGICAL DECADE: END-OF-DECADE
CONFERENCE AND NEW IHP

REF: PARIS 15748

1. SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN FROM PARIS, HENDRICKS
TELEPHONED DECLERCQ. CONVERSATION WAS RELATIVELY BRIEF
AND DID NOT INCLUDE MATTERS RAISED PARA 3 IN REFTTEL, EXCEPT
IN GENERAL WAY.

2. IN VIEW OF EVENTS AT PAST IHD MEETINGS, POLITICAL
ISSUES ARE ALMOST CERTAIN TO ARISE. THEREFORE, DEPT WOULD
LIKE TO INCLUDE PERMDEL OFFICER AS MEMBER USDEL TO END-
OF-DECADE CONFERENCE. PLEASE SUBMIT NAME OF OFFICER TO
DEPT.

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3. U.S. OFFICIALS WITH YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH BOTH UNESCO AND WMO VIGOROUSLY DENY DACOSTA'S CLAIM THAT EAST EUROPEANS DOMINATE WMO'S WATER SCIENCES PROGRAMS. ALL STRESS THAT MR. NEMEC (CZECHOSLOVAKIA), CHIEF OF WMO'S HYDROLOGY AND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, HAS BEEN MOST COOPERATIVE WITH THE U.S. HE IS ONLY EAST EUROPEAN OUT OF STAFF OF NINE IN THAT DEPARTMENT. WHILE CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF WMO'S TECHNICAL COMMISSION ON HYDROLOGY IS A SOVIET, HIS PREDECESSOR WAS MAX KOHLER, U.S. NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION. KOHLER, WHO RECENTLY RETIRED FROM NOAA, HAS BEEN APPOINTED BY NEMEC AS CONSULTANT.

4. WE CANNOT ASSESS FROM THIS SIDE DACOSTA'S ALLEGATION THAT SOVIETS AND EAST EUROPEANS WILL ATTEMPT TO DOMINATE NEW IHP SECRETARIAT. WE ARE INCLINED TO VIEW HIS STATEMENT WITH SOME SKEPTICISM. SOME MONTHS AGO HE WAS CONCERNED THAT UNESCO MIGHT NOT RENEW HIS EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT. HAVING SERVED AS SECRETARY FOR THE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR IHD, IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT HE IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED THAT HE MAY NOT ASSUME SIMILAR DUTIES UNDER IHP. NEVERTHELESS, PERMDEL IS REQUESTED TO KEEP DEVELOPMENTS AT THE SECRETARIAT UNDER CLOSE SCRUTINY AND TO REPORT ANY EVIDENCE WHICH SUBSTANTIATES DACOSTA'S ALLEGATIONS. IT MAY ALSO BE HELPFUL TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF IHP WITH ADG FOR SCIENCE HARRISON. LAST MARCH HE TOLD DECLERCQ (CONFIDENTIALLY AND WITHOUT GIVING NAMES) THAT HE WAS DISSATISFIED WITH PERFORMANCE OF HYDROLOGY DIVISION STAFF. KISSINGER

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